



US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

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Cross Bayou Drainage Structure to reduce flooding in St. Charles Parish

NEW ORLEANS – The New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, together with the Pontchartrain Levee District and St. Charles Parish, will host a ceremony Friday to dedicate Cross Bayou Drainage Structure. The ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. just north of the Ormond and Airline Drive intersection. Map attached.

The structure is part of the Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection Project and is the second of five such structures to be built in St. Charles Parish. Completed by Circle Inc. at a cost of \$2.4 million, Cross Bayou Drainage Structure has six gates, each six-foot-square. It will allow rainwater to flow through the hurricane protection levee into Lake Pontchartrain. St. Charles Parish will close the structure when a hurricane threatens the area. The project was cost shared with the Pontchartrain Levee District.

Three additional drainage structures, located at St. Rose, Almedia and Walker Canal, are under construction and will be completed in 2004. Bayou Trepagnier was completed in January 2001. Total cost of the five drainage structures is estimated at \$9.5 million.

Remaining gaps in the levee will be closed with the award of two other contracts, one for a floodwall at the Gulf South Pipeline (\$1 million) and the other a floodgate at the Canadian National Railroad (\$3 million). These contracts, to be completed in 2004, will result in a levee system that provides protection from a Category 3 storm for St. Charles Parish, at a total cost of \$745 million.

Note to editor: Army Corps of Engineers representatives attending the dedication will include **Col. Peter J. Rowan**, district engineer, New Orleans District, and **Al Naomi**, senior project manager, Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection Project.

Visit www.mvn02.usace.army.mil/pao/visitor/index.htm for more information on the Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection Project.

See map below:

